

Application No. 10/056,845  
Amendment dated December 8, 2005  
Reply to Office Action dated September 14, 2005

### **REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

The Office Action dated September 14, 2005, has been reviewed in detail and the claims have been amended in the sincere effort to place the same in condition for allowance.

Applicant retains the right to pursue broader claims via a continuing application under 35 U.S.C. § 120.

#### **Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph:**

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1 and 3-11 were rejected by the Examiner under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. Specifically the Examiner stated that these claims were rejected as being

“...indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

“Regarding claim 1, line 5-7, the phrases ‘including at least tin oxide’ and ‘including at least zirconium oxide’ are unclear as to what other components are included other than tin oxide and zirconium oxide but not being listed in claim 1. The claim does not particularly point out what is being claimed, thus renders the claim vague and indefinite.”

In response to this rejection, claim 1 has been amended herein to remove the terminology “including at least.” Based on this, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

#### **Indication of Allowable Subject Matter:**

In the outstanding Office Action the Examiner indicated that “Claims 4 & 6 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.”

In response thereto, Claim 1 has been rewritten to include the limitations of Claim 4, and Claim 4 has been cancelled.

Additionally, Claim 17 is newly presented herein. Claim 17 is merely allowable Claim 6 rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of its base claim, Claim 1. Because amended Claim 1 and newly present Claim 17 are allowable Claims 4 and 6 now rewritten in

(L0031285:1)

8

Application No. 10/056,845  
Amendment dated December 8, 2005  
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independent form to include the limitations of their base claims (there were no intervening claims), therefore, Claims 1 and 17 should now be in condition for allowance, and the same is respectfully requested.

**Newly Presented Claims 17-25:**

Claims 17-25 are newly presented herein. As explained immediately above, independent Claim 17 contains the subject matter of Claim 6, rewritten in independent form, which claim the Examiner held to be allowable. For this reason Claim 17 is believed to be in condition for allowance. Claims 18-25 each depend from allowable Claim 17, therefore, by virtue of their dependence, Claims 18-25 are believed to also be in condition for allowance, and the same is respectfully requested.

**Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. 103(a):**

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1, 3, 5 and 7-11 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Blanchard et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,053,378.

In response thereto, Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of allowable Claim 4. Therefore Claim 1 is believed to be in condition for allowance. Because Claims 3, 5 and 7-11 depend from amended Claim 1, they too are now believed to be in condition for allowance by virtue of this dependence.

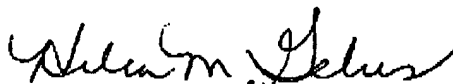
Based on the above, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

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**CONCLUSION**

It is submitted that the Applicants have submitted new and unique Stabilized Tin-Oxide-Based Oxidation/Reduction Catalysts. In view of the above, it is submitted that Claims 1, 3, 5-11, and 17-25 are in condition for allowance. Therefore, it is requested that a Notice of Allowance be issued at an early date.

Respectfully submitted,



Helen M. Galus  
Reg. No. 40,615  
NASA Langley Research Center  
Mail Stop 141  
Hampton, VA 23681-2199  
757-864-3227 (phone)  
757-864-9190 (facsimile)  
Customer No. 23351

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